

Chat Questions from Webinar on Tuesday, January 29, 2019

General topic	Chat questions and responses for posting
Inpatient Psychiatric Facility (IPF) and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) Reporting	<p>67. Ann Slifka: What does IPF stand for? IPF stands for ‘inpatient psychiatric facility.’</p> <p>68. Kristian Smith: Are we required to report an IPF with a separate CCN? Also, the same for an IRF with a separate CCN. CMS is no longer requiring IPFs to submit healthcare personnel (HCP) influenza vaccination summary data through NHSN beginning with the 2018-2019 influenza season. Please note that while the CMS quality reporting program no longer requires submission of HCP influenza vaccination summary data, reporting these data may be required for some facilities based on state mandates. CDC recommends that you check with your state healthcare-associated infection (HAI) Coordinator to confirm the reporting requirements for your state and determine whether submitting data through NHSN will fulfill your state reporting requirements. For your reference, here is a list of State HAI Coordinators from the CDC website: https://www.cdc.gov/hai/state-based/index.html. Please click on your state and scroll down to find the contact information.</p> <p>Facilities that are not required to report these data are still encouraged to voluntarily submit these data through NHSN. IPFs will still be able to submit separate HCP influenza vaccination summary reports in NHSN if they wish to voluntarily do so, or if they are permitted to submit data to NHSN in fulfillment of state reporting requirements for IPFs.</p> <p>HCP influenza vaccination summary reporting is still part of the requirements for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Quality Reporting Program (IRF QRP). However, CMS makes determinations on whether a specific facility is required to report data, so we recommend that you contact CMS to determine reporting requirements for your IRF: IRF.questions@cms.hhs.gov.</p>
Multiple acute care facilities	<p>45. Azita Naderpour: If an organization has multiple facilities, do they sum them up for the denominator and numerator, or we report separately for each facility? Each acute care facility should have its own 5-digit NHSN Organization Identification (OrgID) Number, and HCP influenza vaccination summary data should be submitted separately under each OrgID for all HCP working at that facility during the reporting period.</p>
Physician practices	<p>61. Amy Mullins: What about physician clinics that are located in our building? If the physician clinics share the exact same CCN as the acute care facility, you would include HCP working in these clinics in your acute care facility influenza vaccination summary counts.</p> <p>62. Kayla Passmore: We have an outside specialty clinic that uses our facility to see their patients, do we count them? If these clinics provide outpatient services, are affiliated with the acute care facility, and share the exact same CCN as the acute care facility, you would include HCP working in these clinics in your acute care facility counts.</p>

<p>Outpatient departments</p>	<p>54. Laura Buford: Do free-standing emergency departments count as outpatient? Employees work at both the main facility ED as well as this free-standing.</p> <p>An ED would be considered an outpatient unit. You would include all outpatient units/departments of the acute care facility sharing the exact same CCN (100% identical) as the acute care facility, regardless of distance from the facility.</p> <p>56. Yvette Larsen: I have a Physical Therapy Outpatient department along with a clinic attached to our acute care facility... Do I count them?</p> <p>You would include all outpatient units/departments of the acute care facility sharing the exact same CCN (100% identical) as the acute care facility, regardless of distance from the facility.</p> <p>63. Katrina Jackson: So would a hospital radiology department be considered an outpatient department?</p> <p>If the radiology department provides outpatient services, then it would be considered an outpatient department. You would include all outpatient units/departments of the acute care facility sharing the exact same CCN (100% identical) as the acute care facility, regardless of distance from the facility.</p> <p>64. Kim R 2: I missed part of the presentation. We are on the small critical access hospital with multiple outpatient clinics within our facility and a few outside facilities. We usually just submitted all of our employees as denominator. Would this be improper of us to do now?</p> <p>Per the February 7, 2019 guidance from CMS and CDC, you would include HCP working in all outpatient units/departments of the acute care facility sharing the exact same CCN (100% identical) as the acute care facility, regardless of distance from the facility. Therefore, if the outpatient clinics meet these criteria, it is not improper to include these data in your acute care facility counts.</p> <p>65. Beth Leonhardt: We have several off site physical therapy areas that are under the acute care CCN. The staff might float to the Inpatient PT unit. Would those also be in the Inpatient Hospital count?</p> <p>Per the February 7, 2019 guidance from CMS and CDC, you would include HCP working in all outpatient units/departments of the acute care facility sharing the exact same CCN (100% identical) as the acute care facility, regardless of distance from the facility. Due to the burden of trying to separate out the counts for inpatient and outpatient areas, CMS allows facilities to collect and submit a single influenza vaccination count to include all HCP hospital-wide that meet the criteria, regardless of whether they work inpatient or outpatient areas.</p>
<p>Reporting on denominator categories</p>	<p>52. Tracy Sobiesiensi: Are there any changes with the reporting requirements for physicians?</p> <p>No, employee physicians and contracted physicians working in an acute care facility during the reporting period (October 1 through March 31) are still required to be reported in the HCP influenza vaccination summary data. Contracted and other non-employee physicians should be counted in the licensed independent practitioner category.</p>

	<p>60. Leanne: What about volunteers? Do we distinguish between acute care and outpatient too?</p> <p>Volunteers are still required to be reported in the HCP influenza vaccination summary data for acute care facilities. Per the February 7, 2019 guidance from CMS and CDC, you would include HCP working in all outpatient units/departments of the acute care facility sharing the exact same CCN (100% identical) as the acute care facility, regardless of distance from the facility. Due to the burden of trying to separate out the counts for inpatient and outpatient areas, CMS allows facilities to collect and submit a single influenza vaccination count to include all HCP hospital-wide that meet the criteria, regardless of whether they work inpatient or outpatient areas.</p> <p>69. Patricia Gibson: Does non-employee HCP include contract workers. We contract for our nutrition services and EVS vendors.</p> <p>If individuals are working under a contract, but do not fall into the licensed independent practitioner category (physicians, advanced practice nurses, and physician assistants), you may include them in the optional “other contract personnel” category, if desired. However, reporting vaccination status of other contract personnel is not required.</p> <p>Vendors are not considered HCP for the purposes of NHSN HCP influenza vaccination summary reporting, since their primary role is to sell a product or service rather than to provide care or services to patients. Therefore, vendors would not be counted in your data, including the optional “other contract personnel” category.</p>
<p>Reporting on numerator categories</p>	<p>70. Amy Mullins: Does a verbal statement that they received the immunization count as proof?</p> <p>For HCP receiving influenza vaccination outside of the healthcare facility, the individual must provide written documentation. Acceptable forms of documentation include a signed statement or form, or an electronic form or e-mail from the healthcare worker indicating when and where he/she has received the influenza vaccine, or a note, receipt, vaccination card, etc. from the outside vaccinating entity stating that the healthcare worker received the influenza vaccine at that location.</p>